



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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SURVEY RESULTS ON WASTE SITES IN BROCKPORT MAILED TO RESIDENTS

The Monroe County Health Department has mailed the results of a health education needs survey to residents who live near two inactive hazardous waste sites in Brockport. The purpose of the survey, completed by 182 residents, was to identify the health concerns and questions of residents who live near the waste sites, and to determine their preferred method of becoming better informed about the waste sites. The 21-question survey was delivered door-to-door to more than 500 residences adjacent to the two waste sites in September. A community consultation group, consisting of residents, state agency representatives and elected officials, has been meeting regularly to provide input on the implementation of various recommendations. The survey was funded by a grant from the National Association of County and City Health officials (NACCHO).

Key survey findings:

- 92% of respondents are aware of the presence of the inactive waste sites
- 69% of respondents report 'good-very good' knowledge about the sites
- 48% of respondents believe they may be exposed to harmful substances
- Of respondents who believe they may be exposed to harmful substances, contact with contaminated soil and outdoor air pollution are the two most often cited ways they believe exposure could be occurring
- Types of contaminants, clean-up methods, routes of exposure and medical monitoring were the highest-ranked topics about which residents want more information
- Newsletters and public meetings are the preferred methods of communicating future information on the hazardous waste sites to residents

While the Monroe County Health Department does not have a regulatory role in the clean-up of hazardous waste sites, it can recommend to state agencies such as the N.Y.S. Departments of Health and Environmental Conservation, that certain actions be taken.

Health Department staff will continue to meet with the consultation group to plan public meetings that address the issues identified in the survey. A newsletter will be mailed to residents periodically in 2001 to share the most current information on the waste sites.

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For More Information, Contact:
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